



Utrecht Education Incentive Fund 2017

Information meeting – 13 September
2016

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Universiteit Utrecht

Utrecht Education Incentive Fund

General information

- The Utrecht Education Incentive Fund (*Utrechts Stimuleringsfonds Onderwijs (USO)*) was launched in 2013 to provide an additional boost to the professional development of faculty members and to educational innovation.
- A sum of €2 million is made available each year for projects that transcend the normal evaluation and improvement cycle, for example in the fields of (digital) teaching methods & assessment, active learning, matching & selection, honours education and the renewal of graduate studies.
- Projects are carried out by faculty members.



Goals of Utrechts Education Incentive Fund

- To maintain the leading position of UU in educational innovation; to reaffirm the importance of education
- To affirm the central position of teaching
- Exchange of knowledge and best practices between programmes, departments and faculties
- Professional development of teaching faculty
- To contribute to the goals of BAMA 3.0:
 - To improve study success; to stimulate students to get the best out of themselves
 - To help teaching faculty use their time efficiently
 - To explicitly value & reward good teaching



Education at Utrecht University

Utrecht University's vision on education is documented in the Education Guideline (*Richtlijn Onderwijs*)

1. Clear distinction between the bachelor and masters phase
2. Differentiation, flexibility and freedom of choice
3. Personal and activating forms of teaching
4. Professional development of faculty members

The Education Guideline can be found [here](#).



Strategic Plan 2016 -2020

NEW

- Projects are expected to tie in with the Strategic Plan of UU.
- Distinctively different in character:
 - focus on broad ambitions, less on details.
 - Building on the results of the previous years, intensify on a small number of subjects.
 - More space for faculties and faculty to fill in policy actions within the overall strategy.
- Vision: “... to prepare students for the uncertainty and complexity in the world of today and tomorrow. Our students are the leaders of tomorrow. We want them to take a leading role in solving the major societal challenges we face. This requires a solid knowledge in their field of study but also skills to work across boundaries of disciplines and cultures”. (“educating for a better future”)



Main ambitions SP 2016-2020

- Enhance interdisciplinarity, flexibility, stimulate students to make use of breadth of UU (minors, electives)
- More attention to academic skills and 21century skills
- Enhance research-based teaching
- Increase diversity of our studentbody
- Strengthen our position in graduate education (masters and Phd); -> Graduate Agenda Marijk van de Wende
- Internationalisation
- Increase use of ICT in education (continue Educate-IT)
- Life Long Learning
- Professional development of teaching faculty



Budget & procedures

Budget available: € 2 million per year

- 1 million -> faculties (according to procedures that can vary per faculty)
- 1 million -> allocated by the Executive Board of UU on recommendation of the USO-commission

Timeline:

- October 30: deadline preproposal
- December 1: results first round communicated to participants
- 1 February 2017: deadline final proposals
- ? February 2017: project leaders present project to the committee
- March 1: decision by the Executive Board

NB Proposals needn't be worked out completely in the first round! But be as complete and specific as possible. Use form on intranet.



Criteria

Projects that are eligible for funding:

- aim to improve the quality of teaching: the greater the impact, the better
- tie in with the new Strategic Plan 2016-2020
- contribute to sharing knowledge and best practices across departments and faculties
- are therefor supported by at least 2 faculties
- last two to (maximum) three years
- require investments of €85.000 to €250.000
- have a clear, consistent and feasible project plan

A form can be downloaded [here](#).



Writing a successful proposal

A good project plan

- Contains a clear description of the project (problem, approach, outcome) of the project. Be as specific as possible
- Keep the governance of your project manageable
- Consider setting up a sounding board group

Administrative support

- Make sure your project is supported by the management of your program and faculty
- Involve directors of education, vice-deans / deans and your own seniors in time.



Writing a successful proposal

Collaboration with other faculties / departments

- Find out what is being done in other faculties on the subject of your project
- Use TAUU to find colleagues to cooperate with
- Ask advice from project leaders of other USO-projects
- Consider how TAUU, Educate-IT or COLUU can support

Dissemination en communication

- Think about media / platforms to use
- Make sure to involve communication departments in time
- Ask program directors and/or vice deans to provide exposure



List of funded projects

2013

- Blended Learning (Harold van Rijen)
- Communicate! (Johan Jeuring)
- Ethische reflectie (Mariette van Hoven)
- Onderwijskwaliteit in kaart (Harold Bok)
- Tutoraat 3.0 (Frank Brandsma)

2014

- Digitale microscopie (Wim Dictus)
- Digitalisering van ruimtelijke projectonderwijs (Derek Karssenbergh)
- PUUR - Project for Upgrading Undergraduate Research (Barbera Oomen)
- Simulaties en simulation gaming (Wieger Bakker)
- Zichtbare leerlijnen (Leoniek Wijngaards)



List of funded projects

2015

- Internationalisering in de eenjarige master (Jolle Demmers)
- Differentiatie door Blended learning & learning analytics (Harold van Rijen)
- Innovatief remedierend digitaal leerarrangement statistiek (div. coll.)
- Open deur van de docent (Teaching Academy UU)
- Taalvaardigheid van de UU-student (Leo Lentz)
- Sturen op afstand (Saskia Mol)

2016

- Communicate! (Johan Jeuring)
- Life Long Learning: Ontwikkeling gemodulariseerde opleidingstrajecten (Jan van Tartwijk)
- Verbetering van academische taalvaardigheid: native speakers' peerfeedback (Emanuelle le Pichon)
- Longitudinaal interprofessioneel werkplekleren (Marielle Jambroes)
- Prelabs en E-labs: Digitaal leren experimenteren (Bas Defize)

For more information on the projects, look [here](#)



Questions (and answers)

- **How can I use the money? Can I use (part of it) to buy hardware / IT products?** (The money is mainly intended to compensate for personnel costs. Money can be used for material costs. Acquisition of hardware / IT is not funded because it requires long-lasting commitments of faculties. Development costs for software can be funded).
- **Do faculties have to “match” the budget?** (No but the committee can ask for instance when “regular educational activities” are part of the project).
- **How about assessments during and after the project?** (After 1 year the progress of the project is assessed by the committee on the basis of a ‘site visit’. At the end project-leaders are expected to write a (short) end-report.



Questions (and answers)

- **What happens after my project is finished?** (Faculties and departements are expected to take up and consolidate succesfull projects. This also means that they should take over the financial support. It is important for project leaders to start gathering administative support in an early stage. For continuation of IT-related projects it is advised to contact Educate-IT and/or the central IT-directorate)
- **Can I apply for a new USO-project at the end of my first project?** (yes but there must be a new aspect, angel, etc. Projects that “just” seek continued funding are not eligible)
- **Where can I find more information?** (information on procedures, forms etc on [intranet](#); information on funded projects on the [UU-site](#) and [TAUU](#))



The committee

- **Dr. Harold Bok (Faculty of Veterinary Medicine)**
- **Dr. Marian Joseph (Faculty of Law, Economics Governance)**
- **Dr. Hans van Hout (external advisor)**
- **Dr. Christel Lutz (UCU)**
- **Dr. Leo Paul (Faculty of Geosciences)**
- **Dr. Bernadette van de Rijt (Faculty of Social Sciences)**
- **Dr. Ted Sanders (Faculty of Humanities)**
- **Dr. Arjen Vredenberg (Faculty of Science)**
- **Prof. Jan van Tartwijk (COLUU)**
- **Ineke Lam (COLUU, secr. EMP)**
- **Student member**
- **Hans de Jonge (secretary; academic affairs department)**

